

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Previously Added) A composite material article comprising:
  - (a) a fiber composite section having an axial direction;

(b) a connecting section for connecting the composite material article to another article the connecting section comprising an opening therethrough for accommodating a fastener; and

(c) a transitional section located in the axial direction between the fiber composite section and the connecting section;

wherein the fiber composite section (a) comprises a plurality of fiber layers each comprising a polymer matrix and fibers embedded in said polymer matrix;

wherein the connecting section (b) comprises a plurality of layers including at least some layers comprised of a reinforcement material and at least some layers comprised of some of the fiber layers which extend from the fiber composite section and pass through the transitional section into the connecting section; and

wherein the transitional section (c) comprises a structure in which, between the fiber layers which pass through the transitional section, at least some of said layers in the connecting section which comprise the reinforcement material extend into the transitional section and terminate at first termination points within the transitional section, at least some of said fiber layers in the fiber composite section do not pass through the transitional section but rather extend into the transitional section and terminate at second termination points within the transitional section, and said layers that extend into the transitional section abut against each other at abutment points located at said first and second termination points.

16. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the abutment points are axially offset with respect to each other in the transitional section.

17. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 16, wherein, starting from the fiber composite in the transitional section, abutment points are initially formed between the reinforcement material and fiber layers which have a pre-selected fiber orientation direction having the least effect on a pre-determined strength characteristic of the composite material article, and abutment points for fiber layers having a fiber orientation direction producing increasing effect on said strength characteristic follow offset in the direction of the connecting section.

18. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the fiber layers of the fiber composite are arranged symmetrically with respect to the center plane of the thickness of the fiber composite.

19. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the abutment points are in each case arranged symmetrically with respect to the center plane of the thickness of the fiber composite.

20. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the connecting section comprises alternating fiber layers which pass through the transitional section and the layers comprised of the reinforcement material.

21. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 20, wherein the alternating fiber layers and the layers comprised of the reinforcement material all have the same layer thickness.

22. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the fiber layers which pass through the transitional section are comprised of fiber layers having a fiber orientation direction producing the strongest effect with respect to the main tensile load of the composite.

23. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 22, wherein the fiber layers which pass through the transitional section are formed with a fiber direction which has a  $0^\circ$  direction with respect to the tensile load.

24. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein a proportion of layers in the fiber composite is provided with a  $90^\circ$  fiber orientation direction.

25. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein a proportion of layers in the fiber composite is provided with a fiber orientation direction of  $\pm 45^\circ$ .

26. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein fiber layers having an oblique fiber orientation (a) each rest directly against a fiber layer having the mirror-image symmetrical orientation (-a) with respect to the axial direction, and

wherein both fiber layers together have the thickness equal to one layer having a 0° or 90° fiber orientation direction.

27. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the reinforcement material is comprised of metal layers.

28. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 27, wherein the fiber layers and layers comprised of the reinforcement material having a layer thickness of between 0.2 and 1 mm.

29. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the fibers in a first fiber layer extend in a direction different from fibers in a second fiber layer.

30. (Previously Added) A composite material article according to claim 15, wherein the fiber composite section, the connecting section and the transitional section have essentially the same cross-sectional size and configuration.

31. (Previously Added) A composite material according to claim 15, wherein the connecting section comprises at least one hole for receiving a bolt.